



**1 July 2016 - Eurotunnel has chosen to receive rail weather services from the Met Office, in conjunction with Météo-France, for three years.**

The new contract, which started earlier this month, means the **Met Office** will provide **Eurotunnel** with wind alerts and wave overtopping forecasts for the Eurotunnel site in Folkestone, and also the Samphire Hoe nature reserve in Kent, which was created by Eurotunnel.

As well as this the Met Office will provide Eurotunnel with a bespoke road weather forecasting package from 1 October onwards. **Météo-France** will deliver the forecast in French for Coquelles, the Eurotunnel site in France.

The overtopping forecast provides details of prevailing sea conditions (including wind, water level, swell direction, wave height and wave period) both near shore and inshore at sea defences. Warnings are issued when there is the risk of waves breaching those defences.

The road weather forecasting package will provide Eurotunnel with the ability to prepare ahead of adverse weather conditions, such as snow, ice, heavy rain and high winds. This will allow Eurotunnel to better manage their operations during such weather events and increase the safety of customers and staff.

The aim of the service is to help enable the operational teams to keep the 57,000 passengers who travel through the tunnel each day, on time and safe during their journey.

Kieran O'Regan, Expert Real Time Systems at Eurotunnel, said, "We are pleased to continue our contract with the Met Office and look forward to another three years of excellent service."

Françoise Honoré, Sales Manager for Transports at Météo-France, explained, "The idea of sharing the skills of the Met Office and Météo-France was quickly established and we made an offer together, which combines the best of our joint expertise for the benefit of Eurotunnel. This collaboration is not only innovative and enriching for us, but for the customers too and Météo-France deeply wishes to pursue this co-operation in the future."

The Met Office provides a range of services to the transport sector in the UK to minimise the effects of weather. The Met Office's forecast services are designed to meet the range of needs the customers have during the year.

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